California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region

Errata Sheet

Revised Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0008

Basin Plan Amendment a Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9) to change the Nitrate Water Quality Objective for Groundwaters, incorporate the Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Policy and to incorporate Miscellaneous Updates

The following changes have been made to Attachment A to Tentative Order No. R9-2015-0008 (Supporting Document No. 1). Text has been modified in response to written comments received and as a result of subsequent discussions with the San Diego County Water Authority.

The following sections of Pages 4-10 and 4-11 of Chapter 4 of the Basin Plan have been modified as shown below. Text in red <u>underline/strikeout</u> font shows the original proposed changes. Text in <u>blue underline</u> font shows the latest proposed changes.

Landscape Irrigation with Recycled Water

Irrigating landscapes with recycled water is critical to developing a local, sustainable water supply for the Region. Recycled water that percolates past the landscape root zone, however, can be a source of nitrate to ground water and interconnected surface water. Applying recycled water and fertilizer in amounts and at rates needed by the landscape in end use areas will protect groundwater and interconnected surface water from excessive nitrogen loading.

Permits issued by the Regional Board for projects that include landscape irrigation with recycled water typically require the recycled water producer to develop rules and regulations that must be implemented in the end use areas for the protection of public health and the environment. The permits also stipulate minimum requirements for the rules and regulations. Practices to ensure that recycled water and fertilizer are applied at agronomic rates in end use areas should be included in

these minimum requirements for the rules and regulations. Below are some example practices that lead to the application of recycled water and fertilizer at agronomic rates.

- Monitor nutrient levels in recycled water supplies and notify end users of the nutrient value of recycled water.
- Use fertilizers appropriately taking into account the nutrient levels in the recycled water.
- Avoid overwatering of landscapes and runoff.
- Educate and train site supervisors on how to
 (1) minimize the potential for runoff or over-irrigation; and (2) take into account the nutrient value of the recycled water.
- Conduct periodic inspections of end use areas.

Item No. 8 Supporting Document No. 8 April 15, 2015

The State Recycled Water Policy establishes criteria that landscape irrigation projects must meet to be eligible for streamlined permitting. The following criteria will protect surface water quality as well as ground water quality and should be included in Master Reclamation Permits, Water Recycling Requirements, and WDRs (permits) for landscape irrigation projects that use recycled water. Adherence to these criteria by end users will limit nutrient loading to groundwater and protect interconnected surface water. The criteria are:

- Recycled water agencies must ensure recycled water is applied in amounts and at rates as needed for the landscape (i.e., at agronomic rates and not when the soil is saturated). New and revised recycled water permits must require that the recycled water agency prepare and submit an operations and management plan to the Regional Board, that may apply to multiple sites, that specifies the agronomic rate(s) and describes a set of reasonably practicable measures to ensure compliance with this requirement, which may include the development of water budgets for use areas, site supervisor training, periodic inspections, tiered rate structures, the use of smart controllers, or other appropriate measures.
- Recycled water agencies must ensure their discharges comply with any applicable salt and nutrient management plan.

- Recycled water agencies must ensure appropriate use of fertilizers that takes into account the nutrient levels in the recycled water. Recycled water agencies must monitor and communicate to the users the nutrient levels in their recycled water.
- Application in amounts and at rates as needed for the landscape (i.e., at agronomic rates and not when the soil is saturated). Each irrigation project shall be subject to an operations and management plan, that may apply to multiple sites, provided to the Regional Board that specifies the agronomic rate(s) and describes a set of reasonably practicable measures to ensure compliance with this requirement, which may include the development of water budgets for use areas, site supervisor training, periodic inspections, tiered rate structures, the use of smart controllers, or other appropriate measures.
- Compliance with any applicable salt and nutrient management plan.
- Appropriate use of fertilizers that takes into account the nutrient levels in the recycled water. Recycled water producers shall monitor and communicate to the users the nutrient levels in their recycled water.